

Remarks

Applicant notes with appreciation the indication in the Office Action that Claim 1 would be allowable if the objections to the drawings, specification and claims and the rejections under 112 second paragraph are overcome.

The drawings have been objected to for failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.84(p)(5) because "there is no explicit indication of showing the input streams." The lack of an indication of an input stream of "121h" and "ABh" in Figure 1 has been corrected. A replacement diagram with the legend "Input Stream "ABh and "121h"" and an arrow pointing towards the diagram has been submitted to indicate an input stream. Also in Fig. 1, the arrow indicating the transition state (A) from s1 to s4 was corrected to point from s1 to s4 by reversing the direction of the arrow.

The drawings were also objected to for failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.84(p)(5) because of the presence in Figure 1 of reference characters not mentioned in the description. In accordance with the Examiner's recommendation, the specification has been amended to describe the reference characters indicated in Figure 1.

The drawings as amended fully comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.84(p)(5). No new matter has been added.

The specification has been objected to because of references to claims which were cancelled in a preliminary amendment. The references to these cancelled claims have been removed from the specification.

In accordance with Examiner's request, the applicant has checked the specification for minor errors. None were found.

Claim 1 has been objected to because of typos present in the claim. Applicant has corrected the typos.

Applicant believes the above amendments to the specification overcome the Examiner's objections. No new matter has been added.

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C 112, second paragraph because it was not clear what step "the preceding step" entry was referring to in the claim. Claim 1, line 14 has been amended to read "the converting step" to refer to "converting" in Claim 1, line 8.

The examiner has indicated 14 instances where an antecedent basis was found lacking and all of those have been corrected in the claim.

Claim 1 as amended fully complies with 35 U.S.C 112, second paragraph.

Claim 1 as amended is in condition for allowance. The Examiner is requested to allow Claim 1.

In the event of non-payment or improper payment of a required fee, the Commissioner is authorized to charge or to credit IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 50-0510 as required to correct the error.

If any questions remain, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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